



# EI/ILP Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2013

# Happy New Year!!

State of Alaska

State Updates—Erin Kinavey



Inside  
this issue:

State Updates	1
AAEYC	1
Database Updates	2
Professional Development	3

## AAEYC Conference 1/31—2/2/03 Anchorage Hilton

### ILP Track

- \* 1/31—Reflective Practice, Dr. Barbara Stroud (Keynote & 3 sessions)
- \* 2/1 Safety Planning For Home Visitors—Dr. Linda Chamberlain (3 consecutive sessions)
- \* 2/1 Working with Children in Foster Care—Tammy Sandoval & Laurie Thomas
- \* 2/2 Goal Writing for IFSPs—Kristin Bradshaw, Jan Ohmstede & Meghan Johnson
- \* 2/2 Transition & Child Outcomes—Meredith Jaecks & Jane Atuk

## Regulations and Policies

The month of January 2013 is filling up quickly. Today I received a signed copy of a contract with the University of Oregon. This will allow the U of O to assist us with the implementation of new regulations and policies. We expect to see these posted by February 15th.

Thanks to everyone who provided input on the draft documents that were sent out in October. I am looking forward to having updated regula-

tions on our books.

Many of you probably know Governor Parnell included a \$1.5 million increment for ILP for the FY14 year. Assuming all goes well the increment will make it through the session.

We haven't yet devised a formula for distributing the funds ( which we will do) , but I expect all funds to be granted out to the field.

I am encouraging everyone to be thinking about a spending plan for the potential increase in

grants. Stay tuned

## IFSP

Systems change can be difficult! This month's webinar, scheduled for January 3rd we will have an opportunity to start to discuss the process of the implementation of the IFSP.

I am hoping this process will lead to :

- Common understanding
- collaborative discovery
- quality improvement
- collaborative ownership



## AEYC conference Registration

On December 13, there were only 41 folks signed up for the conference. If you have not signed up for the AEYC conference please sign up ASAP.

## Important Dates

January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!
January 21	Martin Luther King Day (state holiday).
January 22-24	Governor's Council on Disabilities Meeting, Juneau
January 31 - February 2	AAEYC—Hilton Hotel, Anchorage

## ILP Database Update—Lisa Balivet



**-10 degrees F**

**Kotzebue—NWABSD Monitoring  
December 10—12, 2012**

### Northwest Arctic Borough School District Early Learning and Family Program

Monitoring team and ELF staff December 2012

Left to right: Lisa Balivet, Jane Atuk, Kim Mix, Jan Olmsted, Tracy Schaeffer, (Maureen Nolan not shown is taking the photo).

Congrats to the ELF team for a very enlightening and productive monitoring visit.

Kim and crew found the visit helpful, creative and rewarding.



### Mid-Year Self-Evaluations

Mid-year self-evaluations are due January 31, 2013. The report is located under the quarterly reports tab in the ILP database. Files should be Part C children enrolled over the past 12 months. You are looking for compliance during the past 12 months, not from the enrollment date if the child has been enrolled longer than 12

months. Please contact your TA or Lisa Balivet if you have any questions.

### How does an agency get selected for an onsite monitoring visit?

Monitoring is done through technical assistance and the quarterly database reports. Agencies with longstanding noncompliance on their annual report cards, or ongoing challenges to meet compliance are scheduled for onsite monitoring. Agencies meeting requirements will receive an onsite monitoring at a minimum of once in 5 years. Our intention is to provide technical assistant visits in between the 5 year visits to help with quality improvement and maintenance of compliance. Please contact your Program Specialist (Jane or Linda) for questions regarding monitoring.

Evaluation Quote:

**Self-evaluation** directs us to prepare our next performance from the past and today's experiences.

### Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI)

Approximately 3 in 1,000 babies are born with a hearing loss. 1 in 1,000 babies are born deaf. 90% of children with hearing loss are born to hearing parents. 19 Alaskan infants born in 2011 were identified with hearing loss following a failed newborn hearing screen. 14 of those children have referrals in the ILP database (74%). Of the 14 infants referred with hearing loss, only 2 had consent for the family to be contacted by the State Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program.

The Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) program can offer your families additional supports and services

- Parent navigator (a parent of a deaf child) who can provide support and guidance regarding parent resources
- Hearing loss information
- Assistive technology resources including loaner hearing aids

The EI/ILP database allows you to check that the parents have given consent for their contact information to be given to EHDI (located in the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services). EHDI receives and automated report of families who have provided consent for contact. Beth Kaplan, the EHDI Coordinator will then follow up with a call to offer the family support and resources. For more information on the EHDI program:

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/wcfh/Pages/newborn/default.aspx>

If you would like more information about ILP hearing screeners, training to conduct hearing screens, or referral sources for children with failed screens contact, Linda Borghols at [linda.borghols@alaska.gov](mailto:linda.borghols@alaska.gov)

[http://www.infanthearing.org/states/state\\_profile.php?state=alaska](http://www.infanthearing.org/states/state_profile.php?state=alaska)

[http://www.nectac.org/~pdfs/topics/earlyid/CT\\_WhyChildrenwithCommunicationDelaysNeedHearingTests\\_1.pdf](http://www.nectac.org/~pdfs/topics/earlyid/CT_WhyChildrenwithCommunicationDelaysNeedHearingTests_1.pdf)

## Professional Development—Meghan Johnson

### Scholarship and Graduation Information

Student	Degree/ Discipline area	Anticipated Graduation Date (Estimated)
1 Non-ILP employee	ECSE	December, 2012
Colleen Elzey	ECSE	December/Summer 2013
Kerri Burns-Norris	Counseling	Summer/ Fall, 2013
Melissa Kahler	ECSE	Fall 2013
Leah Gold	ECSE	December, 2013
Jessica Gardner	ECSE	December, 2013
Kelly Coutsubos	ECSE	Summer, 2014
Racquel Martinez	ECSE	Summer, 2014
1 non-ILP employee	EC	Summer, 2014
Angie Gingue	ECSE	December, 2013
Lynn Palmquist	OT	December, 2014
McKenzie Weimer	OT	December, 2014
Barbara Wooten	OT	December, 2013
Meaghan Flanagan	OT	December, 2013
Jessica Schultz	SLP	Summer, 2014
Amanda Sanford	ECSE	Summer 2013

If you are in need of an Occupational Therapist or a Development Specialist with a M.Ed. in ECSE please email Meghan Johnson and she will put you in contact with the recent graduates who have service obligations to work in EI/ILP.



**ILP Staff Update:** Congratulations to Lisa Hodges being the first practitioner in Alaska to receive a Michigan Association Infant Mental Health (MI-AIMH) Endorsement for Culturally Sensitive, Relationship-

focused Practice Promoting Infant Mental Health® as an Infant Family Specialist (Level II). Receiving endorsement means that Lisa has demonstrated and met the Level II competencies outlined in the Alaska Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (AK-AIMH) Competency Guidelines.

Lisa is a Developmental Specialist III with the Early Learning Program in Sitka and not only leads the way in bringing IMH-E® to Alaska, but also demonstrates that infant mental health is a very inter-disciplinary field including early intervention. With EI/ILP moving towards integrating infant mental health practices system-wide, Lisa demonstrates the ability of early interventionists to integrate their capacity to attend to relationships, the inner lives of families, and the emotional meaning of her own experience into her existing role as family service coordinator and developmental specialist.

Lisa is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts Boston Infant-Parent Mental Health Post-Graduate Certificate Program in Napa, California.

Her participation in this program was sponsored by the EI/ILP program through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

For more information on the AK-AIMH Competency Guidelines please visit: [www.akaimh.org](http://www.akaimh.org)

**IFSP Update:** As of December 21<sup>st</sup>, approximately 35 IFSPs and additional paper work have been received and I believe 90% of folks have completed the online modules. YEAH!!! If you have questions about how to complete the documentation or what to turn in please give Meghan Johnson a call.

On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, during the coordinators call, we will review the Mock IFSP. One purpose of this activity is to provide an opportunity for all of you to share some of your own experiences using this document so that we can all learn from each other.



Please join us as we offer

**Jane Atuk**

Best wishes in her retirement.

At the AAECY Luncheon  
Thursday, January 31, 2013